

Message Text

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P 190210Z APR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL MADRAS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS: PFOR, XE

SUBJECT:ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK SPEECH IN MANILA

REF.: YOUR TELEGRAM RE: SAME SUBJECT, DTG 151100Z APR 75

PLEASE DELIVER TO SECRETARY SIMON

1.FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED COMMENTS FOR YOUR ADB
MEETING SPEECH APRIL 24.

2. QUOTE THE TRAGIC EVENTS OF RECENT WEEKS IN INDOCHINA
ARE A SOURCE OF DEEP CONCERN FOR MY GOVERNMENT, AS I AM
SURE THEY ARE FOR EAST ASIAN GOVERNMENTS. THE FALL OF THE
CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT LESS THAN TWO WEEKS AGO, AND THE
DISCOURAGING DEVELOPMENTS WE HAVE WITNESSED IN VIET-NAM,
SEEM TO CONTRADICT THE HOPEFUL EVOLUTION WHICH HAS TAKEN
PLACE ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS --
AN EVOLUTION TOWARD COOPERATION AND AWAY FROM CONFRON-
TATION, TOWARD PEACE AND AWAY FROM WAR.

3. MY GOVERNMENT PROFOUNDLY REGRETS WHAT HAS HAPPENED
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AND IS HAPPENING IN INDOCHINA AND, QUITE FRANKLY, WE

REGRET THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN UNABLE TO DO
MORE TO REVERSE THE DETERIORATION WE HAVE SEEN THERE.

YOU ARE WELL AWARE OF THE FACTORS INFLUENCING THE UNITED
STATES RESPONSE TO THE SITUATION IN INDOCHINA -- OF THE
POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES IN OUR OWN
COUNTRY OF OUR LONG INVOLVEMENT THERE -- AND I DO
NOT BELIEVE THEY NEED BE REVIEWED NOW. I THINK IT IS
APPROPRIATE, HOWEVER, FOR ME TO SPEAK FRANKLY OF UNITED
STATES POLICIES TOWARD OTHER NATIONS OF THE REGION IN
LIGHT OF CIRCUMSTANCES IN INDOCHINA.

3. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT MANY GOVERNMENTS OF EAST ASIA
ARE CONCERNED THAT INDOCHINA, AND OUR REACTION TO EVENTS
THERE, MAY PORTEND A BASIC CHANGE IN THE AMERICAN ROLE
IN EAST ASIA. THERE HAVE BEEN PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF
THAT CONCERN -- SUGGESTIONS, IN SHORT, THAT THE UNITED
STATES CAN NO LONGER BE RELIED UPON. I AM CONFIDENT
THAT OUR ACTIONS AND OUR POLICIES IN THE YEARS AHEAD
WILL PROVE THOSE CONCERNS TO HAVE BEEN UNWARRANTED.

4. PRESIDENT FORD SPOKE TO THESE QUESTIONS IN HIS
ADDRESS TO CONGRESS ON APRIL 10. HE URGED THAT FOREIGN
GOVERNMENTS NOT BE MISLED BY OUR NATIONAL DEBATE -- OUR
WILL REMAINS STRONG AND OUR PURPOSES CLEAR. IN THE
PRESIDENT'S WORDS, QUOTE WE WILL STAND BY OUR FRIENDS,
WE WILL HONOR OUR COMMITMENTS, AND WE WILL UPHOLD OUR
COUNTRY'S PRINCIPLES UNQUOTE. NOWHERE ARE THOSE
WORDS MORE RELEVANT THAN IN EAST ASIA. WE HAVE COMMIT-
MENTS IN THIS REGION, BOTH BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL.
WE REGARD THOSE COMMITMENTS AS IMPORTANT TO OUR OWN
INTERESTS AND TO THE INTERESTS OF THE NATIONS WITH
WHICH WE ARE ASSOCIATED, AND WE WILL UPHOLD THEM.
THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN THE FUNDAMENTAL DIRECTION
OF AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD EAST ASIA -- AND THERE WILL
BE NO AMERICAN "WITHDRAWAL" FROM THIS VAST REGION.
OUR FRIENDS NEED NOT FEAR, AND OUR ADVERSARIES SHOULD
NOT EXPECT, THAT THIS WILL COME ABOUT.

5. THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK TO DEVELOP BETTER
RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE MAJOR COMMUNIST POWERS -- AND
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WE BELIEVE THIS WILL BENEFIT ALL NATIONS -- BUT AT
THE SAME TIME WE WILL CONTINUE TO PLACE THE HIGHEST
VALUE ON OUR RELATIONS WITH OUR FRIENDS, IN EAST ASIA
AND AROUND THE WORLD. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK COOPER-
ATIVELY WITH OUR FRIENDS IN MAINTAINING AND
STRENGTHENING THE SECURITY OF EAST ASIA, AND WE WILL
JOIN OUR EFFORTS TO THEIRS IN BUILDING PROSPERITY IN
THE REGION. FOR THE UNITED STATES, THERE CAN BE NO

ALTERNATIVE. IN AN INCREASINGLY INTERDEPENDENT WORLD,
THE UNITED STATES, AS A NATION OF THE PACIFIC, MUST
AND WILL REMAIN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN EAST ASIA. UNQUOTE.
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